

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 539

By Griffey

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Jeffery Allen McKee of Benton County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Jeffery Allen McKee; and

WHEREAS, Jeff McKee was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, one of ten children, Jeffery Allen McKee was born on July 11, 1957, in Knoxville, to Betty Lynn York McKee and Samuel Hugh McKee; and

WHEREAS, Jeff McKee spent much of his life in Tennessee and Michigan; he was a musician and vocalist who sang with the likes of Lee Greenwood and Eddie Rabbit in the 1980s, and he recorded a couple of short albums of his own under the name of Mickey Martin; and

WHEREAS, he met and married the love of his life, Lynn Kay McKee, in Michigan, and in 1988, he and his family moved to Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Bro. McKee was saved at the Westside Church of God in Lenoir City; the following year, he and his family moved to Big Sandy and started a Bible Study in the basement at Bass Bay Resort; and

WHEREAS, the Bible Study grew to become a non-denominational church, and services were held in an old one-room Baptist church in Camden; when they outgrew the small edifice, Bro. McKee and the congregation built a new building in Big Sandy, with the doors opening in October 1990; and

WHEREAS, a devoted man of God, Jeff McKee started a church band in the 1990s that traveled to multiple locations in various states, launching the path for him to fund Mountainview

Music Group; while performing and writing as Mountainview, he won multiple awards, including a Christian Country Music Association award for the song "Lake of Fire"; and

WHEREAS, Bro. McKee planted another church in Knoxville in 2009, along with three Knoxville satellite churches; during this time, he bought the old Camden High School building and turned it into a church/annex, called New Beginnings Church, the congregants of which have served their community in myriad ways through various charitable causes; and

WHEREAS, more recently, when the COVID-19 pandemic prevented congregants from gathering, Jeff McKee began Word O'clock, a thirty-minute Bible teaching series that reached his church and people all over the world; and

WHEREAS, he was also wholly devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Bro. McKee will be mourned yet fondly remembered by his wife, Lynn Kay McKee; mother, Betty McKee; sons, Mark McKee, Steven (Vanessa) McKee, Josh (Rachel) McKee, and Jeffery Allen (Dawn) McKee, Jr.; daughters, Autumn (Jarrett) Glosson and Miranda (Lance) Matney; grandchildren, Steven, Jr., Carter Jayce, Isabella Faith, Piper, Martin, Alyssa, Bradyn, and Bryson; and great-grandchildren, Elysianna and Elaina; and

WHEREAS, he is further survived by his brothers, Scott McKee, Jim McKee, Darrell McKee, Rusty McKee, Keith McKee, Kevin McKee, and Lynn McKee; and sisters, Melanie Colston and Laurie Colston; and

WHEREAS, Jeff McKee leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Jeffery Allen McKee, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Bro. McKee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.